NCPV Hotline — Week of September 8-12, 2008

Weekly News Items

Some of the following news items are available as Adobe Acrobat PDFs. Download Adobe Reader.

The National Center for Photovoltaics (NCPV), the National Renewable Energy Laboratory's (NREL's) center for PV research maintains an international communications system called the NCPV Hotline. The Hotline increases knowledge and awareness of PV industry and research happenings. Hotline participants receive important news items via email related to PV activities around the world. The contents have been relatively uncensored, because we depend on the good judgment of the contributors to separate fact from rumor.

(Links may expire)

<u>Current and archived NCPV Hotline issues</u> <link to http://www.nrel.gov/pv/news hotline.html>
Disclaimer link to http://www.nrel.gov/pv/news hotline disclaimer.html>
Subscribe/Unsubscribe: Email name, organization, and e-mail address to Carol Riordan@nrel.gov> at NREL

NOTE: The NCPV Hotline will be off line September 11 and 12.

9-8-08 Solarig PV Projects, Spain

Solarig has completed its first development stage by connecting all of its PV projects that were scheduled for 2008 to the grid under the current Spanish feed-in tariff. The plants total 22 MW and represent an investment of 132 million Euros. Different PV technologies were used including CdTe thin film, 3rd generation CPV, triple junction high-efficiency cells and monocrystalline modules with double-axis solar trackers. Story at RenewableEnergyWorld:

http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=53511

Solarig: http://www.solarig.com/index.php

9-8-08 Solar EnerTech Corp. Stake in 21-Century Silicon, Inc.

Solar EnerTech Corp. announced that the company has entered into an equity purchase agreement in which it acquired two million shares of common stock of 21-Century Silicon, Inc. constituting approximately 7.8% of 21-Century Silicon's outstanding equity. Press at:

http://www.sunherald.com/457/story/798486.html Solar EnerTech Corp.: http://www.solarenertech.com/

21-Century Silicon, Inc.: http://21-centurysilicon.com/index.html

9-8-08 SCHOTT Solar AG IPO

For information on SCHOTT Solar's IPO, see the press at: http://tinyurl.com/5qhjr3 http://tinyurl.com/67xmge or http://tinyurl.com/67xmge

SCHOTT Solar: http://www.schottsolar.com/

9-8-08 AmeriSolar Module Contracts

Worldwide Energy and Manufacturing USA, Inc. announced that its solar division, AmeriSolar, has signed \$7.63 million in solar module contracts with two new customers. Press at:

http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/marketwire/0430504.htm or http://tinyurl.com/5tbnp4

AmeriSolar: http://www.amerisolar.us/

9-8-08 Solar on DOE Forrestal Building

U.S. Secretary of Energy Samuel W. Bodman is delivering remarks at the kickoff for the largest solar power system in the Nation's Capital, installed on the DOE's Forrestal Building in downtown Washington, D.C. Media advisory at: http://www.energy.gov/news/6511.htm

9-8-08 Green Town, Kansas

Discovery's new Planet Green channel is documenting the efforts of Greensburg, Kansas to be the greenest town in America. Story at RenewableEnergyWorld:

http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=53458

Planet Green: http://planetgreen.discovery.com/

9-8-08 Sunrise Solar R&D Division

Sunrise Solar Corp. announced the formation of its new R&D division. Sunrise Solar will pursue the development of multiple new technologies. Press at:

http://www.tradingmarkets.com/.site/news/Stock%20News/1867997/

Sunrise Solar: http://www.sunrisesolarcorp.com/

9-8-08 China Technology Tin-oxide Solar Baseplates

China Technology Development Group has begun commercial production of tin-oxide solar baseplates.

Story at PV Tech: http://tinyurl.com/6l5t6u

China Technology: http://www.chinactdc.com/english/news/index.shtml

9-8-08 Solar Subsidies in Japan

The Japanese Economy, Trade and Industry Ministry will ease requirements for receiving subsidies to install equipment to encourage small and midsize companies to introduce solar power generation systems. Story through Solarbuzz at: http://www.yomiuri.co.jp/dy/business/20080908TDY02307.htm
METI: http://www.meti.go.jp/english/

9-8-08 3S Industries AG Sales and Service in U.S.

3S Industries AG is opening a sales and service company in Tucson, Arizona – 3S Industries USA Inc. Press at: http://tinyurl.com/6mvxeo

9-8-08 Chloride Solar Division of Chloride Exide, Africa

Chloride Exide has separated its solar line of business from its core automotive battery distribution venture, and the new division has been branded Chloride Solar. The move is aimed at helping the firm to meet growing demand for solar solutions across eastern Africa. Story at:

http://www.bdafrica.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=9854&Itemid=5822 or http://tinyurl.com/68apit

Chloride Exide: http://www.cekl.com/index.php

9-8-08 Micro-inverters

See "Time for a Change: Micro-inverters improve performance of Solar Systems" by Raghu Belur, Enphase Energy, at RenewableEnergyWorld:

http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/reinsider/story?id=53517 or http://tinyurl.com/5o5ota Enphase Energy: http://www.enphaseenergy.com/Corporate/Corporate-Executive-Team.php or http://tinyurl.com/5waoec

9-8-08 Power-One String Combiners

Power-One Inc. introduced its Aurora String Combiners, supporting paralleling and integrated current measurement for up to 20 PV strings.

Press at: http://www.solarindustrymag.com/e107_plugins/content/content_lt.php?content.1878 or http://tinyurl.com/606ygc

Power-One: http://www.power-one.com/

9-8-08 Quarterly PV Market Report

The September 2008 issue of QBuzz(TM) is available [by subscription] from Solarbuzz. Information at: http://www.solarbuzz.com/qbuzz14.htm

9-8-08 More on Solar Market Report

The IREC report "U.S. Solar Market Trends 2007" covers U.S. solar installations by technology, state and market sector. Larry Sherwood wrote the report with funding provided by the U.S. DOE through the Solar America Initiative. Story at RenewableEnergyWorld:

http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?cid=1908&id=53515 or http://tinyurl.com/6r9yf7 Report: http://tinyurl.com/6em7ra

9-8-08 Solar Concentrator Conference [Bob McConnell]

The International Conference on Solar Concentrators for the Generation of Electricity ICSC – 5 will take place in Palm Desert, California on 16-19 November. The deadline for abstracts is 12 September. See more on the conference objectives and agenda at the Website: http://www.icsc5.com/

9-8-08 Thin Film Revolution Event

For information on the Thin Film Revolution event, 15 September in New York, go to:

http://www.greentechmedia.com/events/live/nyc0908/thinfilmrevolution.html or http://tinyurl.com/6o6u8s

http://www.greentechmedia.com/events/live/nyc0908/thinfilmrevolution-speakers.html or

http://tinyurl.com/5zvykr

http://www.greentechmedia.com/events/live/nyc0908/thinfilmrevolution-agenda.html or http://tinyurl.com/5fyse2

9-8-08 Dye-sensitized Solar Cell Conference

The 3rd International Conference on the Industrialisation of DSC is set for 22-24 April 2009 in Nara, Japan. Information at: http://www.dyesol.com/conference/

9-8-08 CPV Website [Belen Gallego], Interview with Principle Power President

CPV Today has a re-designed website at: http://social.cpvtoday.com/

CPV and CSP Today present an interview with Jon Bonanno, President, Principle Power:

http://social.csptoday.com/node

Principle: http://www.powerbyprinciple.com/about/management.php http://www.powerbyprinciple.com/about/management.php?id=jon

9-8-08 Renewables Tax Credits Perspective

See the perspective on renewable tax credits at RedOrbit:

http://www.redorbit.com/news/business/1546667/wind_solar_energy_built_on_temporary_tax_breaks/orhttp://tinyurl.com/5sydrn

9-8-08 Solar Investment Perspective

See the story "The Sunny Side of the Street: Investing in Solar" at:

http://www.socialfunds.com/news/article.cgi/2521.html

9-9-08 SCHOTT Solar Module Supply Agreement with DC Power Systems

SCHOTT Solar Inc. has signed an agreement with DC Power Systems to supply more than 13 MW of PV modules for distribution in the Americas. Press through Solarbuzz

http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/Newspage.asp at:

http://www.bizjournals.com/albuquerque/stories/2008/09/08/daily6.html?ana=from_rss_or_

http://tinyurl.com/5carzp

 $Cleantech(R)\ Media:\ \underline{http://media.cleantech.com/3386/schott-inks-solar-supply-deal-dc-power}\ or$

http://tinyurl.com/5aawgo

SCHOTT Solar: http://www.us.schott.com/photovoltaic/english/index.html or http://tinyurl.com/yu2m4q

DC Power Systems: http://www.dcpower-systems.com/

9-9-08 Pyron Solar Financing [Doug Carriger]

Pyron Solar Inc. announced the closure of a Series A equity financing with New Energies Invest Ltd. in Switzerland. Press from Pyron Solar at: http://www.pyronsolar.com/ http://www.pyronsolar.com/

9-9-08 Sanyo HIT Solar Cell Thickness

Sanyo Electric disclosed the result of thickness reduction to 85 micrometers in its HIT solar cell.

Press at: http://techon.nikkeibp.co.jp/english/NEWS EN/20080909/157661/

Sanyo: http://us.sanyo.com/solar/

http://www.sanyo.com/

9-9-08 Konca Solar Saw Order with Meyer Burger, Production Plans

Meyer Burger Technology has a follow-on contract with Konca Solar to supply wire saws as part of Konca Solar's plans to extend production capacity from the current 135 MW to 300 MW in 2009. Story at

Solarbuzz: http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsASMA190.htm

PV Tech: http://tinyurl.com/6933vd

Meyer Burger: http://www.meyerburger.ch/

Konca Solar (Wuxi) Ltd.: http://www.konca.cn/english/02 about/index.asp

9-9-08 More on LDK Solar Wafer Agreements with Sumitomo Corporation and Solartech Energy Corp.

See more on LDK Solar wafer agreements at enf.cn: http://news.enf.cn/en/news/news_17.html enf.cn: http://news.enf.cn/en/news/news_17.html enf.cn: http://www.enf.cn/

9-9-08 Solar Outlook, PV Industry Update

The September 2008 issue of Solar Outlook, with coverage of Intersolar North America's debut, the Next Big Thing, a SEPA column, the view from the selling channel, news in brief from around the world, a PV conference calendar, and more is available [by subscription] from Navigant Consulting:

http://www.navigantconsulting.com/industries/energy/renewable_energy/solar_outlook_newsletter/ or http://tinyurl.com/3ozn79

9-9-08 Thin-film Solar Market Share

A new report from Greentech Media and the Prometheus Institute forecasts that worldwide thin-film solar production will grow eightfold by 2010, with amorphous silicon leading the way. Press at:

http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/thin-film-solar-to-reach-42-gw-1372.html or

http://tinyurl.com/6lyypb

http://tinyurl.com/6aenhr

http://www.greentechmedia.com/GreentechMedia/Report/Thin-FilmPV20MarketOutlookThrough2012.html or http://tinyurl.com/6gsb7t

Prometheus Institute: http://www.prometheus.org/

Greentech Media: http://www.greentechmedia.com/

9-9-08 More on Silicon Prices [Lia Choi]

See the article "Silicon rally" at Economist.com:

http://www.economist.com/business/displaystory.cfm?story_id=12010071 or http://tinyurl.com/5gp5ut

August Greentech Media press: http://tinyurl.com/66u7pc

New Energy Finance: http://www.newenergymatters.com/?p=about&n=1

9-9-08 European Photovoltaic RTD and Demonstration Programme [Pietro Menna]

The results of the European Photovoltaic RTD and Demonstration Programme were presented at the European Photovoltaic Conference and are posted at the European Commission, Energy Website at: http://ec.europa.eu/energy/res/sectors/photovoltaic presentations en.htm or http://ec.europa.eu/energy/res/publications/index en.htm

9-9-08 PV in Germany

See the story "What's Next for the German Photovoltaic Industry?" at RenewableEnergyWorld: http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/story?id=53518

9-9-08 IREC's Connecting to the Grid Newsletter

The September issue of IREC's Connecting to the Grid Newsletter is available at: http://www.irecusa.org/index.php?id=33

9-9-08 PV for DOE Building, Washington, DC

Standard Solar Inc. announced the completion of the installation of 205 kW of PV solar panels on the roof of the DOE headquarters building in Washington, DC. DOE selected SunPower Corporation to design the installation and provide the solar panels. Press at: http://tinyurl.com/68nmv5

Press from SunPower: http://investors.sunpowercorp.com/releasedetail.cfm?ReleaseID=333249 or

http://tinyurl.com/6p2kvd

DOE Press: http://www.energy.gov/news/6521.htm

http://www.energy.gov/news/6520.htm

Standard Solar: http://www.StandardSolar.com/ SunPower: http://www.SunPowerCorp.com/

9-9-08 U.S. DOE Grants for State-level Policies and Projects

The U.S. DOE announced awards for approximately \$6.6 million in grants for innovative state-level energy efficiency and renewable energy policies and projects. The projects will focus on building utility scale energy capacity from renewables and demand reduction, as well as advanced building energy codes. DOE press at: http://www.energy.gov/news/6515.htm

9-9-08 Connecticut Clean Energy Communities

The Connecticut Clean Energy Fund announced that the town of Wilton has become the 34th municipality in the state to receive the designation of Connecticut Clean Energy Community. Story at

RenewableEnergyWorld: http://tinyurl.com/638bod

Connecticut Clean Energy Fund: http://tinyurl.com/632t6j

9-9-08 Akeena Solar Product Enhancement

Akeena Solar, Inc announced the first major enhancement to its Andalay Solar Power System since the system's debut in September 2007. Press from Akeena Solar at:

http://www.globenewswire.com/newsroom/news.html?d=149955

Akeena Solar: http://www.akeena.com/cm/Home.html

9-9-08 Renewable Technologies PV System for Sanitary District, California

The Oro Loma Sanitary District contracted with Renewable Technologies Inc. for a \$4.5 million project to install some 2,500 solar panels at its San Lorenzo plant. Renewable Technologies will retain ownership of the panels, selling power to the district for 20 years.

Press at: http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci 10414057 Renewable Technologies Incorporated: http://www.renewable.com/

9-9-08 Solar Thin Films Contract with Grupo Unisolar

Solar Thin Films, Inc. has received \$3.6 million from Grupo Unisolar, S.A. towards the \$12.3 million contract to build a 5-MW turnkey amorphous silicon module manufacturing plant in Spain. Story at: http://biz.yahoo.com/bw/080909/2008090905335.html?.v=1

Solar Thin Films: http://www.solarthinfilms.com/

9-9-08 SunEdison Colorado Offices

SunEdison opened offices in Westminster that will serve as the operations center for regulatory affairs and for solar system program delivery, operations and asset management in Colorado, Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, and other states. Press at the Denver Post: http://www.denverpost.com/headlines/ci_10413660 Governor Ritter at dedication: http://tinyurl.com/6lwxt9

SunEdison: http://www.sunedison.com/

9-9-08 Enphase Energy Funding [Sean Gibson]

Enphase Energy, Inc. announced that it has raised \$15 million in new funding to expand manufacturing of its products. New investor RockPort Capital Partners led the round. Press at:

http://www.marketwire.com/press-release/Enphase-Energy-897751.html or http://tinyurl.com/6kj9mlhttp://news.yahoo.com/s/cnet/20080909/tc_cnet/83011112831003326054_1 or http://tinyurl.com/5du6sfhttp://tinyurl.com/5uwfxf

Enphase Energy: http://www.enphaseenergy.com/

9-9-08 Trina Solar's New Website

Trina Solar Limited announced the launch of its new website. Story at:

http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/trina-solar-announces-new-website-design,532529.shtml or http://tinyurl.com/67qh63

Trina Solar: http://www.trinasolar.com/

9-9-08 Dubai Outsource Zone PV Technology

Dubai Outsource Zone announced it has adopted PV technology for its car park. The solution was implemented by PTLSolar. Press at: http://www.ameinfo.com/168276.html

PTL Solar(TM): http://www.ptlsolar.com/

9-9-08 Global and China Solar Polysilicon Industry Report

Research and Markets announced the addition of the "Global and China Solar Polysilicon Industry Chain Report, 2008" to their offering. Press at: http://tinyurl.com/5oowdv

9-9-08 Renewable Energy Project Development & Finance

Information on EUCI's event "Renewable Energy Project Development & Finance – Legal, Contracting & Regulatory Issues", 6-7 November in Lakewood, Colorado, is available at: https://www.euci.com/conferences/1108-re-legal/agenda.php

9-9-08 Renewable Energy Finance Forum West [Michael Eckhart]

The Renewable Energy Finance Forum West is set for 27-28 October in Seattle, Washington. Information at: http://www.reffwest.com/

Speakers: http://www.reffwest.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=52&Itemid=60 or http://tinyurl.com/5g9323

9-9-08 Printed Electronics Asia 2008 [Chris Clare]

Printed Electronics Asia, including Photovoltaics, is set for 8-9 October in Tokyo, Japan. Information at: http://printedelectronics.idtechex.com/printedelectronicsasia08/en/index.asp or http://tinyurl.com/62hek9

9-9-08 Renewable Facilities Program Guidebook, California

The California Energy Commission issued a Notice to Consider Adoption of Changes to the Existing Renewable Facilities Program Guidebook at: http://www.energy.ca.gov/renewables/notices/2008-09-04 notice changes to guidebook.html or http://tinyurl.com/5djy8j

9-10-08 Pyron Solar Financing

Pyron Solar Inc. announced the second closure of a Series A equity financing with New Energies Invest Ltd. in Switzerland. Press from Pyron Solar at: http://www.pyronsolar.com/news_pr3.html (link corrected from 9-9-08)

Pyron Solar: http://www.pyronsolar.com/

9-10-08 More on Morgan Solar Concentrator

For additional coverage of Morgan Solar's concentrator at Greentech Media, see:

http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/morgan-solar-from-staggered-panel-key-to-concentrator-1374.html or http://tinyurl.com/5a3h8m

Morgan Solar: http://www.morgansolar.com/

9-10-08 3M Renewable Energy Business Unit

According to press, 3M announced it will create a new business unit to focus on renewable energy, and increase its stake in the business. Stories at:

http://www.startribune.com/business/28116789.html?elr=KArksLckD8EQDUoaEyqyP4O:DW3ckUiD3aPc: Yyc:aUUJ or http://tinyurl.com/6zvdm7 http://tinyurl.com/6a3yve

http://www.bizjournals.com/twincities/stories/2008/09/08/daily16.html or http://tinyurl.com/5avkdz

3M: http://solutions.3m.com/wps/portal/3M/en_US/CMPAGlobalNewsCtr/news-center/news/press-release/or http://tinyurl.com/5ejmt8

9-10-08 Solar in Korea

See the story "Korea gears up for solar market" at EETimes:

http://www.eetimes.com/news/latest/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=210600668 or http://tinyurl.com/6kz9tf

9-10-08 Global PV Demand

See the story "Global PV demand should not be affected by recent policy changes" at DigiTimes:

http://www.digitimes.com/bits_chips/a20080908PD222.html

SEMICON Taiwan 2008, 9-11 September: http://www.semicontaiwan.org/SCTAIWAN.var

PV Power Expo Taiwan 2008: http://www.pvpowerexpotaiwan.org/PVTAIWAN.var

9-10-08 Silicon Costs

See the story "China solar industry faces rising silicon costs" at Cleantech(R) Media: http://media.cleantech.com/3392/china-solar-industry-faces-rising-silicon-costs

9-10-08 Cinema PV, California

Cinema West announced the installation of a 27-kW PV system at its Fairfax 5 Theatres, developed and installed by SPG Solar, Inc. Press at RenewableEnergyWorld:

http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/story?cid=1452&id=53532 or http://tinyurl.com/5gcfsl SPG Solar, Inc.: http://www.spgsolar.com/

9-10-08 Reference Spectra [Keith Emery]

NREL 1-sun calibrations are now made with respect to IEC 60904-3 edition 2, or equivalently the ASTM G173 global reference spectrum. NREL concentrator cell calibrations are now made with respect to the ASTM G173 direct reference spectrum. "One Sun" continues to be 1,000 W/m2. The Web link to the new spectra is: http://rredc.nrel.gov/solar/spectra/am1.5/

NREL: http://www.nrel.gov/pv/measurements/

http://www.nrel.gov/pv/measurements/device performance.html

IEC: http://tinyurl.com/5wyyk6 http://tinyurl.com/5djz28

9-10-08 NSF Investment in Green Grid Technologies

The National Science Foundation announced it will establish a new NSF Engineering Research Center at North Carolina State University for power grid technologies that can effectively integrate renewable energy and energy storage systems. More on the new NSF ERC for Future Renewable Electric Energy Delivery and Management Systems, or FREEDM, at EERE Network News [Kevin Eber]: http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/news/enn.cfm

9-10-08 ASES National Solar Tour

For information on the National Solar Tour locations and dates, see the ASES Website at: http://ases.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=116&Itemid=33 or http://tinyurl.com/68mtp7

9-10-08 Space-based Solar Power

John C. Mankins, former manager of NASA's Exploration Systems Research and Technology Program, will announce a milestone demonstration of the critical technology enabling space solar power – long-distance, solar-powered wireless power transmission.

More at: http://www.spaceref.com/news/viewpr.html?pid=26383

9-10-08 Solar Taxi in New York

Swiss solar energy pioneer, Louis Palmer, is offering free rides in his Solartaxi in Manhattan this week.

Story at: http://tinyurl.com/5ubyxz
Solar Taxi: http://tinyurl.com/5ubyxz

9-10-08 Investor Events

JA Solar Holdings Co., Ltd. announced that the company is scheduled to present at the Deutsche Bank 2008 Technology Conference on 11 September in San Francisco, California.

Press at: http://biz.yahoo.com/pz/080910/150068.html JA Solar: http://www.jasolar.com/Web/index-en.asp

Solar Power, Inc. announced that the company will present at the Merriman Curhan Ford 2008 Investor Conference on 15 September in San Francisco, California.

Press at: http://biz.vahoo.com/bw/080910/20080910005293.html?.v=1

Solar Power, Inc.: http://www.solarpowerinc.net/

9-10-08 Webinar on CPV [Belen Gallego]

Information on a Webinar, "Concentration Photovoltaics: technical & commercial opportunities", 19 September, can be found at: http://www.onlineregistrationcenter.com/register.asp?m=211&c=24

9-10-08 Coverage of European PVSEC

Coverage of the recent European PV Conference at IDTEchEx can be found at: http://printedelectronics.idtechex.com/printedelectronicsworld/en/news.asp or http://tinyurl.com/5u3b4c

In related solar news...

9-10-08 Solar Hot Water Solutions

SkyPower has entered into a joint venture with Excess Energy. The joint venture, called SkyPower Lite, will offer Canadians turnkey solar solutions and will initially focus on solar hot water solutions.

Press at: http://tinyurl.com/5p7ztd SkyPower: http://www.skypower.com/

9-10-08 Solel Solar Systems Factory

Solel Solar Systems announced the opening of a \$9 million factory in Finland, together with glass processing technology firm Glaston.

Press at: http://www.globes.co.il/serveen/globes/DocView.asp?did=1000380704&fid=1725 or

http://tinyurl.com/646cs9

Solel: http://www.solel.com/press/